BRIEFS

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I Lm 856.8-9 Pr Ex 7.10: FBIS-SSA-78-4

JAN 19 1978

FBIS-SSA-78-4
Friday
6 January 1978
Vol VIII No 4

DAILY REPORT

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COMPLETED

ORIGINAL

FROM BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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ETHIOPIA

EMBASSY DENIES ERITREANS CONTROL ASMARA AIRPORT

TA051404Y Paris AFP in English 1305 GMT 5 Jan 78 TA

[Text] Rome, Jan 5 (AFP)--The Ethiopian Embassy here today dismissed reports that Eritrean guerrillas control the international airport at Asmara, the provincial capital, as "tendentious and unfounded."

"There is no rebel activity around the airport which remains under the government's control. The regular Rome-Asmara-Addis Ababa flight which left Rome on Tuesday night landed as scheduled at Asmara yesterday morning," a spokesman said. The spokesman was reacting to a news report that the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), one of the guerrilla movements fighting for the separation of the northern Ethiopia province, had surrounded the airport.

ETHIOPIA TO ACT AS SPOKESMAN IN EEC-ACP TALKS

LD051558Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 4 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Ethiopia has been elected as spokesman for the East African region in negotiations between African, Caribbean, Pacific [ACP] countries in the EEC. This was disclosed yesterday by Ato Lema Argaw, head of credit and investment department at the Ministry of Finance. Ato Lema was a member of the Ethiopian delegation who attended the ministerial meeting of ACP countries held in Lusaka, Zambia, last month.

Ato Lema disclosed that Ethiopia has to make intensive preparations for Lome II, expected to be signed in 1980, so that it would strongly voice the interests of not only the region but of the ACP countries as a whole in the preliminary negotiations expected to start in September 1978. Ethiopia has also obtained or been pledged from EEC funds 312 million birr for development projects.

Ato Lema said that during their meeting in Lusaka they had passed a number of resolutions calling, among other things, for special treatment for least developed countries in the Lome extension of ACP-EEC subsidy arrangements to cover a greater number of commodities and educational, scientific, cultural and trade relations among ACP countries themselves. [as heard]

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NATIONALIZATION OF SINGER

LD052044Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism disclosed today that in accordance with the guidelines of the program of the Ethiopian democratic revolution the Singer Company, which was sabotaging the Ethiopian economy, has been placed under government control.

Details of Nationalization

LD052048Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Dr Ashagre Yigletu, minister of commerce and tourism, has disclosed that the Singer Company was put under the government's control without any compensation because of the various acts of commercial sabotage it has committed. He briefed company employees on the nationalization at the ministry this afternoon.

In his speech, the minister noted that other companies have been nationalized for this very reason and that this company had been in Ethiopia for over 50 years.

The permanent (?secretary) in the Ministry of Commerce and Tourism, Ato Abebe Worku, also gave a briefing on the nationalization of the company and urged the employees to dedicate themselves to restrengthening the company.

[Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic at 1810 GMT on 5 January says that the Singer Company has been smuggling money out of Ethiopia to an unspecified country.]

KENYA

PRESIDENT KENYATTA RECEIVES UK FOREIGN SECRETARY

LD051538Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] The president, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, this morning at State House, Mombassa, played host to the British foreign secretary, Dr David Owen. Mzee Kenyatta and his guest discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries. They both expressed satisfaction with the relations between Kenya and Britain. Also present were the vice president and minister for home affairs, Mr Daniel Arap Moi; Minister of State Mr Mbiyu Koinange; and the minister for foreign affairs, Dr Munyua Waiyaki.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE RETURNS FROM FOREIGN TOUR

LD051530Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Mohamed Siad Barre, secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the Somali Democratic Republic arrived at Mogadiscio airport at 1400. Challe Siad and the delegation accompanying him were warmly received on arrival by the first vice president, Challe Lt Gen Mohamed Ali Samatar, who is also the defense minister; Vice President Maj Gen Hussein Culmie Afrah, adviser to the president on presidential affairs; Vice President Brig Gen Ismail Ali Abokar, who is also assistant to the SRSP secretary general; Challe Brig Gen Ahmed Suleiman Abdallah; all members of the SRSP Politburo; bureau chairmen; ministers; members of the SRSP Central Committee; and other senior government officials.

The president and his delegation, who left here on 27 December, visited Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Syria, Egypt, Sudan and Oman, and held talks with their respective leaders on mutual relations and cooperation.

Siad Comments on Trip

LD051856Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Excerpt] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR], Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, who returned to the country today, has told reporters from SONNA and Radio Mogadiscio that he discussed bilateral relations and matters pertaining to the Horn of Africa and world affairs in general with the leaders of all the countries he visited.

He said that he and the other leaders he visited held identical views on the matters they discussed. The president said that he and the leaders of the countries he visited maintained that the Indian Ocean and the Horn of Africa should be kept as a zone of peace and that those who create problems in the area, especially the big powers, should be opposed resolutely.

Turning to the Middle East, Challe Siad said that he had appealed to the Arab nations to take a common stand on the problem in order to achieve results against Israel and other countries. [as heard]

The secretary general of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party [SRSP] and president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, said that during the tour he had reached a good understanding with the leaders of the countries he visited on the affairs of the Horn of Africa. They were gravely concerned about the problem in the Horn of Africa.

The leaders of the countries he visited saw the problem of the Horn of Africa as a problem of concern only to Abyssinia and the various ethnic groups who had decided to rebel against its odious colonialism.

Challe Siad said that today the whole world condemned those countries who were interfering in this problem, which was simply a fight between liberation movements and colonialism. The president added that these people should be allowed to enjoy their right to self-determination. Challe Siad added that the whole world was keeping a close watch on the countries supporting the colonialist Addis Ababa regime and hindering the struggle of the liberation fronts.

Challe Siad sent messages of condolence to all the families who lost relatives in the barbarous raids carried out recently by the planes of the Addis Ababa regime against towns in the northwest of the SDR and expressed the hope that the Almighty God would admit the victims to paradise and grant speedy recovery to the injured.

Challe Siad said that it would never be possible for the Addis Ababa regime and its allies to force Somalia to renounce its stand of supporting and recognizing the liberation fronts.

Somalia has consistently tried to maintain peace and stability in the region, but it is obvious that the Addis Ababa regime and its allies are indifferent to this matter and that they are trying to aggravate these problems, which are of their own making, Challe Siad said.

Challe Siad went on to say that responsibility would fall on the shoulders of those who were creating discord in the area--discord which would cause more problems for Africa as a whole and also for other countries. Challe Siad advised the Addis Ababa regime to grant freedom and independence to the peoples who are fighting to free themselves from colonialism and to renounce the policy of solving all problems by the gun.

Djibouti Reports Aid Commitments

LD052020Y Djibouti Domestic Service in Somali 1645 GMT 4 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Before leaving Khartoum for Oman, the president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] (?told) AL-AYYAM that there is great concern that the situation in the Horn of Africa could lead to a third world war if African countries do not do something about it. The paper says that the fighting [words indistinct]. The SDR [words indistinct] of the Horn of Africa. Siad explained that the SDR has no intention of going to war and harbors no emnity against the Government of Kenya. He said the issue between the two countries was created and left behind by the British colonialists.

[Words indistinct] Somali President Siad Barre denounced [words indistinct]. The president added that Somalia is, however, very grateful for the help extended by the people of (?the Soviet Union), but this does not oblige him to agree to sacrifice his freedom and policy.

Asked finally about the expulsion of the Soviet (?advisers) and military experts at the end of last year, the president admitted that there were difficulties encountered in the (?supply of arms) but added, however, that he was planning [words indistinct].

The outcome of his recent visits to Iran, [words indistinct] and Egypt was successful. His visit to Iran resulted in an Iranian pledge to give an unexpectedly large grant of military and economic aid to Somalia to total about $300 million. This was revealed in the newspaper called AS-SAHAFA published in Sudan. The paper disclosed that the Somali president received this pledge from the shah during the former's visit to Teheran. The report adds that the military aid is already being poured into Mogadiscio.

The government of Saudi Arabia, said the paper, has already pledged to help the Somali government with $72 million. The UAE has given Mogadiscio $71 million. President Siad's visit to Iraq was similarly successful. Baghdad has already given Somalia substantial military and economic aid.

PRESIDENT SIAD BARRE ENDS 2-DAY VISIT TO OMAN

For reportage on the visit which began on 4 January by President Mohamed Siad Barre to the Sultanate of Oman see the Arabian Peninsula section of the 5 January Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

MOGADISCIO: WSLF OFFICIALS TOUR LIBERATED AREAS

LD051845Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/EA

[Text] Officials of the Western Somali Liberation Front have recently conducted a tour of some of the liberated areas previously occupied by the colonial forces of Addis Ababa. In their tour the officials met with the community leaders and people of the liberated areas to review the living conditions of the people and brief them on the current level of the liberation struggle.

NIGERIA

GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES LAW TO REGULATE ELECTIONS

LD060946Y Lagos International Service in English 0730 GMT 6 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The federal military government has enacted the law that will govern the conduct of the parliamentary elections in the country in 1979. It makes provisions in respect of registration of voters, procedure at elections, political parties and electoral offenses. It contains 151 sections.

Under the provisions relating to electoral offenses, it is stipulated that anyone convicted of certain malpractices will be disqualified from voting or being elected. Anyone who did not register as a voter in a constituency but votes or attempts to vote there will be guilty of an offense. The electoral college stipulates various fines for persons or parties infringing its provisions.

The registration of voters for the elections will begin throughout the country on the 14th of this month.

DPA: FOREIGN MINISTER CRITICIZES FRG STAND

LD041014Y Hamburg DPA in German 0014 GMT 4 Jan 78 LD

[Text] Lagos--The Nigerian foreign minister, Brig Gen Joseph Garba, has expressed criticism of Bonn's attitude to South Africa. In a DPA interview Garba said German-Nigerian relations cannot be called excellent as long as the FRG maintains a lukewarm attitude toward the problem of South Africa.

The minister said that German-Nigerian relations are cordial, especially in the field of economic and technical cooperation. However, Nigeria views with displeasure the continued and active commitment by the FRG in South Africa. Although it is not easy to sever economic relations, Bonn should recognize the priority of demands for a peaceful solution to the problem of South Africa, even if this means making some financial sacrifices.

Replying to a question about German investment in Nigeria, Foreign Minister Garba said Nigeria will encourage such investment so long as firms are ready to obey the Nigerianization decree. This decree provides for different degrees of Nigerian capital participation depending on the sectors concerned and requires the employment of Nigerians as far as possible. The Nigerian Government does not intend at the moment to nationalize foreign property.

ANGOLA

FOREIGN MINISTER: FORCES CAPABLE OF DEFENSE

FL060038Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Jan 78 FL

[Text] The aggressive actions by imperialism against the People's Republic of Angola have again been denounced by officials of this African country. In connection with this situation, Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge has told TASS the following:

The forces of imperialism and its agents do not want to accept the decision of our people to advance on the path toward building socialism, to help the national liberation movements in southern Africa and to oppose fascist and racist regimes resolutely. That is why we do not doubt that at any time they might put into action against Angola a vast plot which they have already prepared.

The Angolan foreign minister referred to the attacks on and the violation of Angolan borders by various groups that receive South African support. However, he asserted that such actions are bound to fail. These were his words: The enemies of our people have no recourse other than to accept the fact that the popular forces Angola are capable of defending and safeguarding the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. It is time for them to understand that they can no longer succeed in occupying our country and eliminating the victorious Angolan revolution.

MOZAMBIQUE

ZIMBABWE ARMY COMMANDER NOTES HELP FROM FRELIMO

LD051324Y [Editorial Report LD/EA] Maputo Voice of Zimbabwe in English to Rhodesia at 1800 GMT on 4 January carries an interview, presumably recorded, granted to an unidentified Maputo radio correspondent by (Tongogara), chief of defense of the Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army. The date and place of the interview are not specified.

Asked about the problems the combatants faced at the beginning of the liberation struggle in 1966, (Tongogara) notes that at that time the freedom-fighters had very little experience, but with time they improved. He goes on to say: "With the little experience we had, the complex situation we had, we were able to destroy enemy helicopters and soldiers. That showed that the comrades really prepared to wage the armed struggle to the bitter end, and also that they had mastered what they had learned."

(Tongogara) is then asked about what advantages the fighters had in 1972 which enabled them to be so successful. (Tongogara)replies: "We owe it to FRELIMO. Why I say this is that before we started getting into Zimbabwe, we (?emerged) with FRELIMO in their operational zones, acclimatizing ourselves to the war situation. And by the time we went into our country we had already gathered a lot of experience."

The reporter goes on to note that the war of national liberation has intensified. It is advancing to greater heights and toward the ultimate goal--true freedom. To achieve this goal, he says, the forces have to follow a definite plan of action. In this connection, (Tongogara) says that at the last party committee meeting in Chimoio, chaired by the party president, Robert Mugabe, a resolution was issued on the intensification of the armed struggle. And the party "drew up a program which was defined by the president (?for) the party and the forces and the high command, and this is the program we are working with, of creating political power, committing everybody to the armed struggle, explain to everybody why we are fighting."

SOUTH AFRICA

BLACK LEADER SCORES CARVER'S PLANNED MOZAMBIQUE TRIP

LD051310Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The Zimbabwe United People's Organization [ZUPO] has criticized the proposed visit to Mozambique by the British resident commissioner-designate for Rhodesia, Field Marshal Lord Carver. ZUPO's publicity secretary, Mr (Gibson Nathalawombe), said Britain was pursuing a policy of divide and rule by trying to split the various black groups involved in Rhodesia.

Mr (Nathalawombe), whose organization is one of the three taking part in the current settlement talks with the Rhodesian Government, said that in the past the British had always sabotaged talks whenever a settlement of the country's 12-year constitutional deadlock was in sight. He added that an internal settlement along the lines of the one currently being negotiated was the best solution to the country's problems.

DEFENSE FORCES WAGE BATTLE IN OPERATIONAL AREA

LD061336Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Jan 78 LD

[Text] South African defense force headquarters has announced that two soldiers and four terrorists have been killed in a clash in the operational area. Shooting erupted when an army patrol came upon a heavity armed terrorist gang. An unknown number of terrorists was wounded in the fighting.

REFUGEES ARRIVE IN OVAMBO; ANGOLAN FIGHTING CITED

LD061338Y Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Jan 78 LD

[Text] The chief minister of Ovambo in South-West Africa, Paster Ndjoba, says 150 Angolan refugees have arrived in Ovambo since last week. It was reported earlier that fighting had again broken out between MPLA and SWAPO forces on the one hand and UNITA forces on the other in southern Angola.

BRIEFS

ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR TO IVORY COAST--Abidjan, 27 Dec--The new Argentine ambassador to the Ivory Coast, Ricardo Pillado Salas, said today that the possibility of a trade agreement between the two countries is under study. Argentina desires to expand trade with this country. [Paris AFP in Spanish 2045 GMT 27 Dec 77 PA]

OUTGOING ENVOYS IN KENYA--Two outgoing high commissioners to Kenya today made their final courtesy calls on an assistant minister for foreign affairs, Mr Peter Muigai Kenyatta. The two were the Sri Lanka high commissioner, Mr Wijekulasuriya, and the Nigerian high commissioner, Mr Galtima Abu Bakar-Kolo. The two expressed their thanks to the Kenya Government for the cooperation they had received during their stay in Kenya. [Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Dec 77 LD/EA]

MOZAMBIQUE NATIONALIZES BANKS--It was learned in Maputo that the Mozambique Government has nationalized five large private banks which were operating in the country. The state's Bank of Mozambique will take over all operations of the nationalized firms. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 4 Jan 78 FL]

RHODESIAN EMIGRATION FIGURES--Statistics released by the government show that Rhodesia had a net loss of 576 whites during November, one of the lowest figures for any month during 1977. The total net emigration figures for last year show a net loss of 9,871 compared with 5,914 for the first 11 months. [Text] [Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 5 Jan 78 LD/CA]

TANZANIA CIVIL APPOINTMENTS--President Nyerere has appointed Ndugu Al-Noor Kassum, the minister for water, energy and minerials, as chairman of the board of directors of the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation. The president has also appointed Ndugu Sebastian (Barongo) to be general manager of the corporation. Prior to the appointment, Ndugu (Barongo) was the executive chairman of the corporation. The appointments, which will become effective from January, follow a reorganization of the Tanzania Petroleum Corporation. [Text] [Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 30 Dec 77 LD/EA]

TANZANIAN PHOSPHATES--Arusha--Phosphate deposits at (Winjingo) near Lake Manyara in Arusha region have been proved suitable for fertilizer production. Experts from the FRG, who undertook several operations on the deposits, said that (Winjingo) deposits could be developed. In their reports the experts said there was no need for Tanzania to import phosphates. The Tanzania fertilizer company's spokesman has said that plans are under way to develop and exploit the deposits so as to meet the company's requirements as soon as possible. Tanzania is currently spending 32 million shillings annually for the importation of phosphates from Jordan. [Text] [Dar es Salaam in English to East Africa 1000 GMT 4 Jan 78 LD/EA]

ZANZIBAR CHIEF JUSTICE RESIGNS--Zanzibar--His excellency the chairman of the Revolutionary Council has accepted the resignation of Ndugu Ali Haji Pandu as Zanzibar's chief justice beginning today, January 1978. [Text] [Zanzibar Domestic Service in Swahili 1500 GMT 4 Jan 78 LD/EA]

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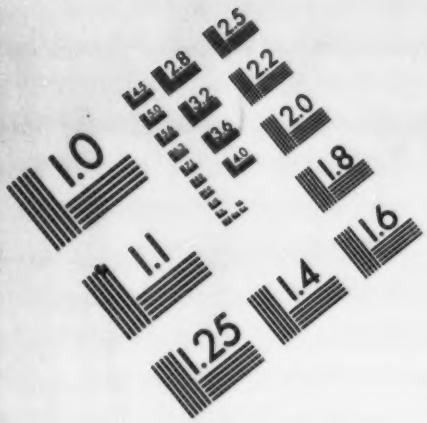

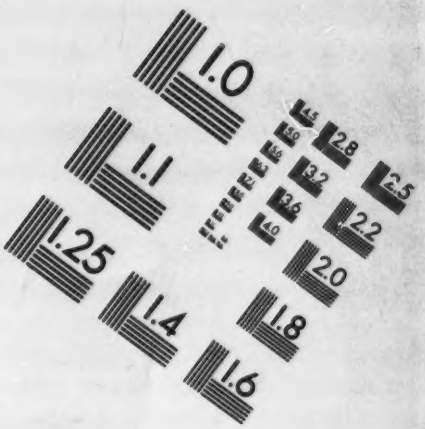

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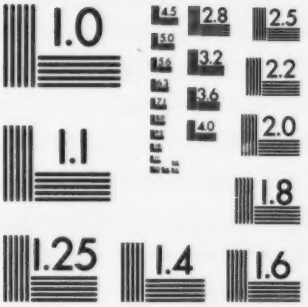

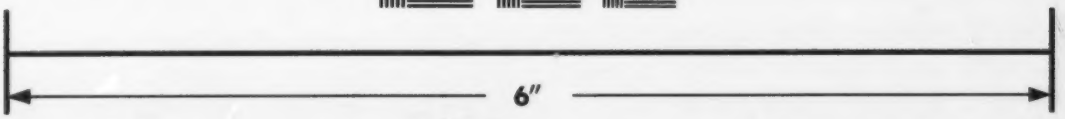

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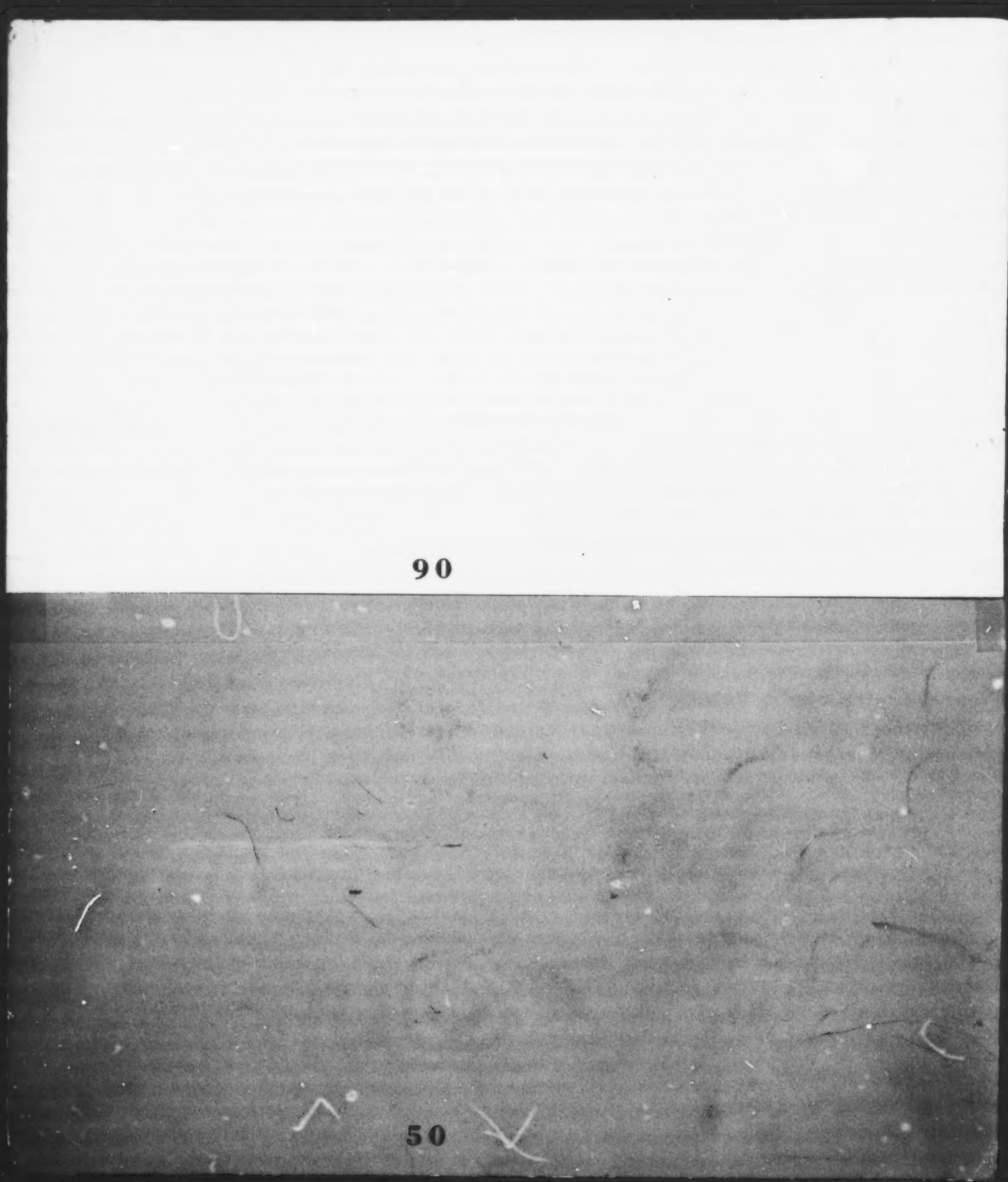
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